THE EXAMINER.

No. 12. *SUNDAY, MARCH* 20, 1808.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few.
SWIFT.

No. 12.

SWEDEN.

THE sudden relaxation of tone in the ministerial papers respecting the vivacious energy of Sweden is not calculated to encrease our respect either for the sense of Ministers or for the sense of the Swedish Monarch. The formidable preparations of Denmark, Russia, and France, for the invasion of his territories, are said to have alarmed GUSTAVUS into a wish for pacification. But still he is magnanimous: there cannot be a doubt of that. When he was confident of his ability to resist all his enemies, he was magnanimous because the contest was so unequal: and now when he finds he cannot resist them, he is magnanimous because he thinks of making peace. Magnanimity will soon be another word for royal weakness. The whole mutual contest of Sweden and this country appears to me to be nothing but a reciprocity of self-delusion and a very pitiable want of foresight. The King of SWEDEN may be a very well-meaning man, but he sees little and presumes much; he is deficient, like some of our most celebrated statesmen, in what may be called the *wit* of politics; he cannot combine and compare the nice distinction and resemblances of interests, he cannot discover his own immediate interest when it depends upon some distant policy: he has an air of decision, but his decisions though suddenly fixed are not profound; they take no deep root because their ground is ill-chosen. Thus he suddenly resolved to die in the ruins of Stralsund, but he had not foreseen that this would be a very uncomfortable death, and accordingly when the French came he walked quietly away. In the same manner he is now said to alter his tone and to consider his hostility to France as of *no further* use. But it would be satisfactory to know, of what use this hostility *has* been.

As to the conduct of our Ministers in this business, it is evident that they set experience at defiance; and whatever may be the feelings of GUSTAVUS, whether friendly or inimical to pacification, the event will merely add the last melancholy instance to the folly of continental subsidies and alliances. If the Ministers encouraged Sweden into war, they are not to be blamed so much for the assistance which they might afford to the credulous monarch they had misled, as for the idea of any such encouragement. In the best event of such a war, he could have no hope of conquest: he would merely preserve to himself a shattered independence, and even this is the most improbable thing in the world. The real effects of the present contest, even in its present aspect, and whether it be long or short, would be not only an increased jealousy between Sweden and Denmark, who have always been as jealous neighbours as France and England, but a real triumph of Denmark over her humiliated rival, a new addition to the fancied importance of Russia, and a real addition to the real importance of France. If Austria could do nothing against France, when France was her single enemy, what could a lesser power do against her, when all the rest of the Continent is the slave or the ally of NAPOLEON? If I may use a homely comparison, the French Emperor has been playing at nine-pins with a snow-ball, and all the nine-pins have been Kings. He has overthrown them all but one, the size of his ball has naturally encreased with its action, he is close to the last royal piece of wood, and who can doubt of the event? It has been necessary, throughout the affair, that Sweden should make peace, the Ministerial Papers begin to think it necessary, and yet this peace could not be made, till the French were at the walls of our ally! Our troops must return, our money ought to return, and I wish to Heaven our wisdom would return with our money, since we appear to think them inseparable. A dotage on continental alliance seems to be the inevitable folly of every fresh Administration. The late Ministers, who before their elevation were so vociferous about its uselessness, rushed into the usual extravagance on their entrance into power. In short, continental alliance is the great ministerial concubine, who wastes the money and the strength of all succeeding ministers, and like a true mercenary mistress, invariably forsakes them in misfortune.

At any rate, the King of SWEDEN would have shewn himself more wise in making peace than in receiving money from England and final ruin from France. It is awkward to be obliged to acknowledge one's-self in the wrong, especially when we have boasted of our decided knowledge of the right, but wisdom had better come to us in the awkward shape of altered opinion than in the melancholy one of altered prosperity.

I am afraid the die is cast: the revenge of NAPOLEON is roused even by a shew of resisting his proud ambition, and GUSTAVUS most probably cannot now obtain peace.

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

Paris, Feb. 21.—Letters from Lyons of the 11th and 12th inst. announce, that the Rochefort squadron, which left that port in the month of January last, after making a short cruize in the Atlantic passed the Straits of Gibraltar; and is safely arrived at Toulon, where it has united itself to the squadron in that port. The Rochefort squadron consists of from five to six sail of the line, some frigates, and light vessels; the Spanish squadron from Carthagena has also put to sea, and has joined the Toulon and Rochefort squadrons. Several other ships have also left the different ports of Spain, so that the combined fleet will be very considerable. Five sail of the line have been built, equipped and armed within a short time at Toulon. It is generally reported at Lyons, and in all the ports of the Mediterranean, that the combined fleets intend to drive away the English ships cruizing off Sicily, and at the entrance of the Adriatic; and afterwards to attack the fleet of Admiral Collingwood, stationed in the Archipelago and off the Dardanelles, before this fleet can receive reinforcements from England. The most recent letters from the South of France announce, that the combined squadron of Toulon, Rochefort, and Carthagena, reinforced by other Spanish ships, sailed from Toulon on the 7th and 8th of this month, and steered to Sicily.

Strasburgh, Feb. 20.—Letters from Toulon, bring the important advice, that the fleet there, reinforced by the combined French and Spanish fleets, probably the fleets from Rochefort and Cadiz, set sail from that harbour on the 7th and 8th of February, and steered towards Sicily with a favourable wind at south-east.—The number of ships of the line amounts to thirty.

GERMANY.

Banks of the Danube, Feb. 22.—We are assured that several regiments, which formed part of the Russian army in Moldavia, have begun their march for the Caspian Sea. A Russian army is to be assembled there, which will embark in order to proceed to India.

ITALY.

Rome, Feb. 2.—Yesterday a corps of French infantry and cavalry, under the command of General Miollis, entered Rome, and took possession of the Castle of St. Angelo. The best understanding prevails between these troops and the inhabitants. The troops of his Holiness do duty as before.

Feb. 16.—On the 3d inst. General Miollis paid his respects to the Pope, but continued with his Holiness only a few minutes. His Excellency afterwards returned to the palace of M. Lucien Bonaparte; this Senator and Prince Borghese have guards of honour. The French Officers are lodged with the Nobles, and the soldiers in the monasteries. It is thought that the Holy Father will leave Rome immediately.

SWEDEN.

Gottenborgh, March 4.—By the post from Stockholm of Friday we have received the important news that the Russians have entered Swedish Finland in [illegible] (according to accounts say 40,000 men), and have proceeded as far as Helsingfort, which is within half a mile of the fortress of Sweaberg, the only place in the country capable of making any formidable resistance; when the post left Stockholm the Russian Minister was confined in his house, and a guard placed at his door. We are yet without any official accounts of the march of the French into Holstein, but the report of travellers from Denmark, make us look upon this as an event soon to be expected, if it has not already taken place. The number of vessels for transporting troops, put in requisition in the different ports of Denmark, is immense. It is unfortunate that the English squadron lying here, consisting of three sail of the line, one frigate, and three or four smaller vessels, is frozen up.

TURKEY.

Constantinople, Jan. 29.—The Archipelago is still covered with British Squadrons, which obstruct all trade and navigation. Admiral Collingwood himself is before Cerigo; another division of the fleet appears to intend an attack upon us. The Kaimakan of the Sublime Porte in Egypt, Seid Mehmed Aly, has been obliged to throw himself into the citadel of Cairo, to wait for reinforcements and the issue of the negotiations which he has entered into with the Beys. The capital is in a very distressed state, as the British Squadron prevents the approach of any thing by sea, and the Mamelukes all communications with Upper Egypt. The last inundation of the Nile was likewise by no means so abundant as is requisite.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

A dreadful instance of ferocity occurred, about a week since, at Stapleton prison, near Bristol. Two Frenchmen having quarrelled, one of the parties, with his friend, insisted upon his antagonist's getting out of bed and fighting him; the latter assented. It was determined that they should fight with the two legs of a pair of compasses, which was broken in half. They rushed upon each other mutually stabbing until the aggressor fell lifeless to the ground, having been pierced through the heart. His friend immediately seized the weapon from the hand of the corpse, insisting that the fight should be renewed with *him*; it was agreed, and after a horrible rencontre, he shared the same fate as the first. The survivor (who is much wounded, but not very dangerously), was secured, and a coroner's inquest sat on the bodies. As it appeared that the two deceased persons were the aggressors in the affair, the Jury brought in a verdict of *Manslaughter* against the prisoner.

Last week Charles Page, game-keeper to the Earl of Malmsbury, was found dead in his Lordship's Park. It was imagined he had died suddenly as he was returning home. He still held his gun in his hand, and the two spaniels that constantly accompanied him were discovered lying upon his back, where it is supposed they had remained the whole of the night. They could not be prevailed upon to quit the body, and followed the corpse when it was removed to the dwelling of the deceased.

ASSIZES.

Winchester.—Adjutant *John Foden* was indicted for forcibly violating Elizabeth Stapleford, a young woman of 18 years of age, at the Portsmouth Marine Barracks, on the 8th Nov. last. From the evidence, it appeared, that the prisoner, who had paid his addresses to the unhappy girl, and gained her affections, contrived to

carry her up to his apartments, and there, notwithstanding her outcries and resistance (according to her evidence), forcibly committed the offence: but several persons on the spot deposing that they must have heard the cries had any been made, and the following verses in her own handwriting proving (as the Judge observed) that she was ready to fall into his arms, the prisoner was acquitted:

He's gone, he's gone, the youth is fled,
The thought, the wretched thought, distracts my head;
Where shall I turn me, whither shall I stray?
To some secluded spot I'll bend my way.
He's gone, he's gone, break, break, my stubborn heart,
For death's more welcome than with him to part.
What pleasure is there in the shady grove,
Since I no longer meet the youth I love?
Return, return my Faden, Oh! return,
'Tis thy love calls thee, 'tis thy love that mourns.
Oh! come and cheer me, with one kind embrace,
Let pity smile upon thy heav'nly face,
Contented then, I'd join my heart to death,
And gaze, and love thee, 'till I lose my breath.

The above lines were dated three days before the offence took place. The trial excited peculiar interest. The unfortunate girl was much agitated when desired to take off a large straw hat she had on. She seemed very ill; death appeared to have set his mark upon her, though her countenance indicated that she had been remarkably handsome. The prisoner was very properly acquitted of a charge which would have taken away his life, yet it seems clear that he had acted a most unworthy part. Taking advantage of her love for him, he conveyed her her into his room (forcibly, as the bruises on her knee proved), and there carried his purpose by the most detestable conduct. Death would certainly be too severe a punishment; but that such an offender against all the finer feelings of humanity should escape, is to be regretted by every man of honour. The young creature was weak, was indiscreet; but her despoiler's conduct was execrable.

MAIDSTONE.—On Wednesday Baron Hompesch was found guilty of a libel on the wife of a Kentish farmer named Sherwood. It appeared that the plaintiff Sherwood was in the habit of visiting at the Baron's house, and one Sunday in October he staid playing at cards and drinking till five o'clock on Monday morning: his wife came and fetched him away. The next day the Baron sent him some wine to recruit his spirits, as he said, a plaister to cure the bruises given him by his wife, and an ornamented horsewhip to correct her. He afterwards composed a song (the libel complained of) called "The Termagant, or, Direful Kentish Tale," an obscene doggrel poem on Sherwood's wife fetching him home. It contained (said Serjeant Shepherd) neither wit, poetry, nor humour, but was mere vulgar obscenity, containing the grossest imputations upon the character of the plaintiff's wife. The Lord Chief Baron told the Jury that he had no doubt the defendant had occasioned the plaintiff to gamble on the Sabbath and neglect his affairs: the libel was a most disgusting one. Verdict for plaintiff—Damages 500l.

CLONMEL.—*J. Ryan* and *M. Keatinge*, were indicted for the murder of D. Bourke and J. Dogherty.—L. Bourke swore, that on the night of the 11th of October, a number of men armed advanced towards his house; in consequence of this, he went to the window, and saw the prisoners; they desired him to open the door, but he refused, and they then fired several shots in. There were in the house Dogherty, the deceased, a man who was servant to the witness, and witness's wife and child; they were armed, but had no ammunition save what the guns were loaded with; the prisoners and the party, finding they could not get into the house, set it on fire; and the witness heard Ryan say, "take it easy, boys, you will see what bolting we will have by and by." The witness's wife and child then went to the window, and called out to Ryan (who was her relation) not to burn the house; but he replied, with an oath, that he would; and a shot was fired at her; that she and the child fell out of window, and were seized by the prisoner Keatinge, but afterwards made their escape; the house was now falling in flames about the witness's head, and he therefore opened the door and ran out; several shots were fired upon him, but he escaped them, and made his way to D. Bourke's, his father's house; in his flight, he fired his piece and killed one of Ryan's party. When witness arrived at his father's, he found he had gone to the assistance of the witness, and on returning, he found his father's corpse lying near the smoking ruins of his dwelling. After a very long trial, the Jury brought in a verdict of Guilty against both of the prisoners. They were both immediately sentenced to be executed.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

MONDAY, MARCH 14.

On the motion of Lord HAWKESBURY, the Treaty with Sweden was taken into consideration. The Noble Lord said, that he wished it to be distinctly understood, that his Swedish Majesty was not acting under any suggestions from the British Government; but that he had acted nobly for the general cause, and merited the support of Englishmen.

Lord GRENVILLE was pleased to find that Ministers had not prompted Sweden to continue the war, which he thought hopeless for her. He should not oppose the Subsidy, though under the present gloomy prospect, while we were on the verge of a gulph which no eye could fathom, it was no slight addition to the burthens of the people, groaning under a fifteen years war.

The Address to his Majesty was of course voted without a division.

Lord BATHURST moved the first reading of the Order in Council Bill, which was opposed by Lord GRENVILLE, on the ground that various clauses had been introduced into it totally inconsistent with their Lordships privileges. Lord Grenville therefore moved that the Bill be rejected. After some discussion, it was agreed that the proceedings on the Bill should be postponed till Wednesday.—Adjourned.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15.

On the Order of the Day being read for the third reading of the Offices in Reversion Bill, the arguments before urged for and against it were repeated, and on a division taking place, it was lost by a large majority, there being 48 for it, and 128 against it.—Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16.

The debate was resumed on Lord Grenville's motion for rejecting the Orders in Council Bill, on the ground of its being a violation of the Standing Order of 1702.—Ministers contended that it was not an infringement of the true intent of the Standing Order; while the Opposition maintained the reverse opinion.—On a division, the motion for rejecting the Bill was negatived by a majority of 129 to 59.—Adjourned.

THURSDAY, MARCH 17.

A long conversation ensued on the motion for receiving a Petition from 400 Liverpool Merchants against the Orders in Council Bill. The Petition was at last rejected.—Adjourned.

FRIDAY, MARCH 18.

Lord SIDMOUTH, after repeating his former observations with regard to the hardships suffered by the Danish

Merchants, whose ships and cargoes were, on the commencement of hostilities, confiscated as Droits of the Crown, though many of them had previously been adjudged to be restored on the ground of illegal capture, moved for a variety of accounts relative to the Danish vessels detained prior to the 13th of September.

Lord SUFFOLK wished to have a statement on the table of the value of the vessels.

Lord SIDMOUTH said, that he understood it was two millions.—The motion was agreed to.

The Mutiny Bill was taken into consideration by a Committee of the whole House. After some conversation, it was reported and ordered to be read a third time.—Adjourned.

PROTEST AGAINST THE REJECTION OF THE REVERSION BILL.

Dissentient 1st, Because the Bill does not in our opinion invade any of the legal prerogatives of the crown, or diminish any of its constitutional influence, but tends rather to secure both, by removing the temptation to negligence or abuse in the disposal of offices.

2d, Because it appears to us to be necessary in this and every other instance, to secure to the subjects of this country, suffering under the pressure of an unprecedented accumulation of taxes, the means of economical retrenchment and reform of such offices as can either be reduced in their emolument or entirely abolished, without injury to the dignity and powers of the crown, or to the interests of the public.

3d, Because, with respect to places granted in reversion, all means of retrenchment and reform are taken away, so long as the lives for which they are granted shall continue.

4th, Because reform and retrenchment in the public expenditure have been recommended to us from the throne, and because we are apprehensive that the rejection of the present bill may be considered by the people of the United Kingdom as indicating a disposition in this House not to give effect to that wise and salutary recommendation.

LAUDERDALE,	PONSONBY,
GREY,	STAFFORD,
ALBEMARLE,	CARRINGTON,
ESSEX,	KING,
JERSEY,	COWPER,
VASSALL HOLLAND,	PONSONBY, of Imokilly.

Dissentient for the 1st, 2d, and 4th reasons;

SPENCER, CLIFTON.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, MARCH 14.

Sir C. PRICE presented a Petition from the Merchants of London trading to the Continent, expressive of their support to the late Orders in Council.

Mr. TIERNEY asked of what description the petitioners were?

Sir C. PRICE replied, that they were a Society composed of men of the highest respectability, who had been for a length of time in the habit of supplying *all the wants* of the people of the Continent.

Mr. HERBERT said, he had never heard of such a Society, and such was utterly unknown. They were, he believed, a *Club*, and in that light the petition surely ought not to be received. He ought also to state, that there were many foreigners belonging to that Club.

Mr. PONSONBY remarked, that there must be many foreigners concerned in the petition, as there were many parts of it written in bad English.

Mr. CANNING said, there were several errors of a clerical nature in the petition, but it ought to be received as the petition of those individuals by whom it had been signed, as the House could not be responsible for the style in which the petition might be couched.

Mr. TIERNEY conceived it could not be received. This petition had come from a *Club of Odd Souls*, who met occasionally for purposes of a convival nature, and whose first toast always is, "The Minister, for the time being." He objected to the petition, as it stated a thing not true, that there was such a Society as the Merchants trading to the Continent.

After a short conversation, Sir C. PRICE consented to withdraw it.

THE ARMY.

The SECRETARY at WAR moved the Order of the Day for the third reading of the Mutiny Bill.

Sir F. BURDETT stated, that he rose to move, that a clause be added to the Bill preventing, in future, any officer in the Army from being cashiered, and dismissed from the service, unless he should have been found guilty by a Court Martial. This regulation, he conceived, would be productive of much benefit to the service, and highly satisfactory to the Army and to the Country. He should endeavour to show that such a clause would not infringe the prerogative, for the army itself was but an infringement on the constitution of our ancestors. He did not however mean to say, that the King's Prerogative was mischievous, when properly exercised, and it was for the purpose of preventing its improper exercise, in dismissing Officers, without any caused assigned, that he felt impelled to submit such a clause. He wished to extend to Military Officers a degree of protection they had never enjoyed, but to which they were surely entitled, in order that they might not be exposed to dismissal from the army through the base insinuations of disappointed individuals. His object was to prevent officers, who from their merit were entitled to remain, from being forced to resign. He contended that no officer ought to be dismissed from his rank of pay, unless some substantial charge was made out to the satisfaction of a Court Martial. Many instances, he regretted to state, had occurred, of such dismissals, for secret reasons. He meant the clause he should submit as a prospective measure entirely. By the clause he did not mean to cast a reflection on any man, though there were ample instances where such reflections might well be indulged. A clause to this effect would produce a degree of confidence in military men, who would have the consolation of knowing that they could not be cashiered without a conviction by a Court Martial. Thus would it excite a stimulus in the military spirit of the country, which would soon pervade all its military institutions.—After enlarging upon the obvious policy of such a regulation, the Hon. Baronet concluded by moving a clause to the above effect to be added to the Bill.

The SECRETARY at WAR was sorry he could not comply with the proposition of the Hon. Baronet, who had not made out any fair ground for so material an alteration in the military system. The Hon. Baronet had dwelt upon the hardships of Officers being deprived of their rank and commissions. It was but too true that there were many hardships attending a military life, and if some security could not be given to the country, with that dispensing power, it would be impossible for the army to exist. Were the army rendered independent of the Sovereign, the most dangerous consequences would result.

Lord FOLKESTONE supported the clause; and insisted, that the Hon. Baronet had stated ample grounds for its introduction; but his Lordship recommended the Hon. Baronet to withdraw the clause, and introduce it in a separate Bill.

Sir F. BURDETT said he would concur with the suggestion of his Noble Friend, and bring this important matter before the House in another shape.

Mr. CALCRAFT said, he had a clause to propose, which was to reduce the Mutiny Bill to that state in which it was last year, with respect to the enlistment of men for a limited term. The limited service had been attended with great success, and he considered the mea-

sure attempted by the present Ministers, of drafting from the Militia, as both expensive and oppressive. The draft of 16,000 men cost the country 640,000l, which fell mostly on the poorer portion of the landed interest.

The SECRETARY at WAR was averse to the clause, and contended, that the unlimited service was more congenial to the feelings of a soldier, and less expensive to the country at large.

Sir G. WARRENDER censured any innovation in the military system; and said, that the balloting from the Militia was oppressively felt in North Britain—In one county alone, no less than 13,000l. was levied, to make up the deficiency.

Mr. WINDHAM defended his military system, and said he had not heard a single argument which precluded an old soldier from being rewarded for his long and faithful services. The strongest recommendation in favour of his system was, that the longer it continued the more it received credit and added to its respectability; but the Gentlemen on the other side were from party purposes wedded to another system, which they were convinced was both oppressive and compulsive.

A division took place, when the clause proposed was negatived by 189 to 116.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed.—Adjourned.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15.

MARQUIS WELLESLEY.

The debate on the Oude charge was resumed. On the one side, the conduct of the Noble Marquis was stigmatized as impolitic and unjust, disgraceful to the British name, and injurious to her interests.—On the other, it was contended, that the Marquis had been actuated solely by a zeal for the public service, and that his interference with the Nabob of Oude was absolutely necessary for the safety of India.—On a division, the Vote of Censure was lost, and the motion of Sir J. Anstruther, "that it appears to this House that the Marquis Wellesley, in his arrangements in the province of Oude, was actuated by an ardent zeal for the service of his country, and an anxious desire to promote the safety, interests, and prosperity of the British Empire in India," was carried by a large majority, there being 180 for it, and 29 only against it.—Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16.

Mr. SUMNER brought up a Bill for constructing a Bridge across the Thames, from the Savoy in the Strand, to Cupers Bridge, on the opposite side.

SWEDEN.

The Treaty with Sweden was then taken into consideration.

Mr. CANNING said, that the King of Sweden having manfully resisted the demands of France to join the Confederacy against England, his Majesty had concluded this treaty of alliance, for the purpose of assisting Sweden against the common enemy. It was intended to advance 100,000l. per month, for twelve months; and he should therefore move, that 1,100,000l. be granted for that purpose.

Mr. WHITBREAD disapproved of that article in the treaty which bound the parties not to make a separate peace.

Mr. PONSONBY wished the money intended for the King of Sweden might be a means of his obtaining a peace. If it had not that effect, it was only accelerating the ruin of the Swedish Monarchy.

Mr. CANNING observed, that the grant was to enable the King of Sweden to support himself in his noble struggle for independence.

Mr. PONSONBY remarked, that there could be no doubt but this money would very soon find its way into the Bank of Paris, in the same manner as the subsidies given to Austria and Prussia.

After a few words from Mr. Smith, Mr. Herbert, Mr. Whitbread, and Mr. Canning, the Report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

BARK BILL.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee on the third reading of the Bill.

Mr. WHITBREAD opposed the Speaker's leaving the Chair. There was a period in the history of this country when such a measure would have been scouted, but times were unfortunately changed, and the object of the war totally abandoned. By this Bill we are required to carry hostility into the hospitals, and the miserable recesses of the sick, the lame, and the blind. It was a mean, despicable, and cruel policy to visit the sins of the French Ruler on the poorer classes of society. Fortunately for France, Bark was not scarce. He found letters from Paris, as late as the 24th ult. quoting the prices of Bark, viz. Red, 54s.; Yellow, from 5s. to 8s.; Quill, 16s. 8d.

Mr. PERCEVAL urged the necessity of the measure.

Mr. W. Smith, Mr. S. Lushington, Mr. Herbert, and Lord Milton opposed the Bill; and Sir Wm. Elford, Mr. Gordon, and Gen. Noel, supported it.—A division took place for the Speaker's leaving the Chair—Ayes, 92—Noes 29.

THE SPEAKER.

In the early part of the evening a desultory conversation took place, respecting the expedition to the Dardanelles, wherein Mr. Tierney complained of the partiality of the Speaker, and said he would bring the question before the House.

Mr. Secretary CANNING rose, and asked Mr. Tierney when he meant to avail himself of that opportunity?

Mr. TIERNEY explained his motives, and observed, that he hoped such an occurrence would never happen again; if it should, he had always the remedy in his own hands.

The SPEAKER detailed the usage of the House, and said, as for partiality, he was unconscious of it.

Mr. CANNING, after highly complimenting the Speaker, submitted a Resolution expressive of the approbation of the House, for his able and impartial conduct, which was carried without a division, Mr. Tierney only dissenting.—Adjourned.

THURSDAY, MARCH 17.

COLD BATH FIELDS PRISON.

Mr. SHERIDAN, in answer to a question from Mr. Sumner, said, that he had delayed proceeding on the subject of Cold Bath Fields Prison, because he had understood that Ministers had instituted an enquiry on the alledged abuses.

Mr. SUMNER disapproved of further delay. The Magistracy had been libelled, and he thought that the matter should be referred to a Select Committee of the House.

Mr. PERCEVAL objected to the appointment of a Committee, as the matter was now undergoing a full investigation before the Home Secretary of State.

Sir F. BURDETT highly disapproved of such a mode. The public mind ought to be satisfied by a direct proceeding of the House. Complaints had been made of the infamous state of this prison ever since 1799, and yet Government had done nothing in it. The laws of the land had been set at nought by Aris, and the Magistrates had protected him. In this prison every thing of woe and misery was to be seen: innocent men in irons, and the Governor reviling and beating the unfortunate prisoners. He was in the habit of getting money, too, from them, and it was a fact that he had obtained no less a sum in this way than 1100l.

Mr. SHERIDAN was astonished that such a man as Aris should have been continued as Governor after such facts had been proved. A superintendant of the prison-bread had made oath that there was not a pound weight in the prison: the bread had been found to be light. The case

of Mary Rich was one of a most cruel description. She had been brutally assaulted by a man, and was confined merely to give evidence against him: her father had accepted a compromise to drop the prosecution, yet she had been put into a damp dungeon, where she was so reduced by starvation that she could neither speak nor stand. A wretched foreigner, confined as a spy, had become deranged owing to severe treatment; yet a man of the name of Dickie was now in confinement, and had been for years, for a *libel* upon this Governor, as his statement of these abuses had been deemed.

Mr. MELLISH contended that the Magistrates had done their duty, and that the charges against the gaoler were not proved.

Sir F. BURDETT said, he could never forget the facts of Aris having whipped his prisoners, and his having taken bribes. These enormities called for redress, and some justice was surely due to those who had suffered under his lash. In that infamous gaol there were no less than 300 cells. In serving their bread, it was very easy to pass one or two cells, and neglect the inmates entirely, at the caprice of the stern gaoler. There was, the Hon. Baronet observed, something mysterious in the protection Aris had received. He was a man of most notorious bad character. He had collected in Clerkenwell parish the rates for the poor, and had embezzled the money. He had been made Governor of the Coldbath-fields prison in order that he might repay the money by his *honourable* earnings in that capacity.

Mr. PERCEVAL thought a Commission would be much more adviseable than a Committee.

Mr. WILBERFORCE was of the same opinion.

Lord Folkestone, Mr Wm. Smith, Mr. H. Smith, Mr. Creevy, Sir J. Newport, Mr. Sheridan, and Mr. Whitbread, were decidedly in favour of a Committee. The question being loudly called for, the gallery was cleared, when the House divided—For a Committee, Ayes 50, Noes 70.—The business therefore rests with Government.

On our re-admission, we understood that a Committee had been appointed to examine the Journals of the House of Lords respecting the Reversion Bill.—Adjourned.

FRIDAY, MARCH 18.

Mr. S. THORNTON brought up a Bill for constructing a Bridge across the Thames from Vauxhall Turnpike, or near the same, to Millbank.

Mr. HUSKISSON rose to move, that certain Orders in Council be referred to a Committee of the whole House. His reason for this motion was the necessity of introducing a bill of Indemnity for the Lords of the Treasury, who had permitted goods to be imported from Portugal. In the peculiar difficulties of the country, it was indispensable that Government should be enabled to take every step for bringing away from Portugal property of every kind, belonging either to the Portuguese merchants or to the English, and the wine and other goods had been brought home by neutrals and Portuguese vessels. These neutral vessels coming to this country, in such circumstances, ought not to be subjected to forfeiture. It was, therefore, intended to enable the Privy Council, under licences, to permit that intercourse which exists between this country and those from which the flag of Great Britain is excluded, to continue and go on. He concluded by moving that the Orders in Council, presented on the 15th ult, be referred to a Committee of the whole House.

After a few words from Sir J. NEWPORT, the Committee was gone into, and leave was given to bring in a Bill allowing his Majesty to permit the importation of goods, from countries from which the flag of Great Britain is excluded, under any flag whatever.

Mr. BANKES gave notice respecting the Report of the Committee on the Lords Journals, in regard to the Reversion Bill.

Colonel STANLEY presented a Petition from the Town and Neighbourhood of Manchester and Salford, signed by upwards of 50,000 Manufacturers out of employment, entreating the House in its wisdom to embrace every possible means of concluding a peace with the enemy.

A short discussion ensued, when the Petition was ordered to lie on the table.

A brief Debate took place on the third reading of the Bark Bill, and the House divided on an amendment, that instead of "now," the Bill be read a "third time this day three months," which was negatived. The Bill was then passed.

Mr. Alderman COMBE moved the order of the day, for the House taking into consideration the Petitions from London, Liverpool, and Manchester, against the Orders in Council.

Mr. Broom, Counsel for the Petitioners, was then called to the Bar, who stated the object of his clients in appearing before the House with a view of shewing the operations of the Orders in Council, as injurious to the trade between this country and America. Mr. Woods, Mr. J. Phillips, and Mr. G. Palmer were severally examined, relative to the Petition from Manchester, and Mr. A. Glennie, and Mr. Bell, in support of the London Petition, when further proceedings on this business were adjourned till Tuesday next, and the evidence was ordered to be printed.

Adjourned till Monday.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES ENLARGED.

N. Wright, Nottingham, brickmaker, from March 7, to March 19, at six, at the Ram Inn, Nottingham.

R. Waddilove, Ainsworth Mill, Lancashire, calico-printer, from March 19, to April 9, at ten, at the Bridgewater Arms, Manchester.

BANKRUPTS.

Thomas Holmes, Hersham, Surrey, nurseryman, to surrender March 22, April 9, 26, at eleven, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Clarke, Sadlers'-hall, Cheapside.

George Sewell, Deptford, victualler, March 19, April 2, 26, at ten, at Guildhall, London. Attornies, Messrs. Pearce, Dixon, and Allen, Paternoster-row.

William Varndell, Hartley-row, Hartford-bridge, Hants, coachmaker, March 22, 29, April 26, at one, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Vincent, Bedford-street, Bedford-square.

William Drewry, jun. Falkingham, Lincolnshire, carpenter, March 30, 31, April 26, at eleven, at the Greyhound Inn, Falkingham. Attorney, Mr. Worth, Habling, Lincolnshire.

William Hartland, jun. Bristol, house-carpenter, March 30, 31, April 26, at eleven, at the Bush Tavern, Bristol. Attorney, Mr. Baynton, Bristol.

Matthew Saunders, Strand on the Green, near Turnham-Green, maltster, March 22, 26, April 26, at one, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Davies, Warwick-street, Golden-square.

Thomas Dickens, Gloucester-street, Hoxton, baker, March 22, April 2, 26, at twelve, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Sheffield, Prescot-street, Goodman's-fields.

DIVIDENDS.

April 30. C. and N. Husey, Newgate-street, linen-drapers.—April 18. T. Wightman, Arundel, Sussex, vintner.—May 10. J. Carleton, Hilbeck-hall, Westmoreland, cotton-spinner.—April 12. J. Hurry, Nag's-head-court, Gracechurch-street, merchant.—April 12. R. Powles, Nag's head-court, merchant.—April 26. F. H. Christian, J. C. Clarke, and C. Bowen, College-hill, merchants.—April 14. J. Jones, Enstone, Oxfordshire, victualler.—April 6. A. Woodward, Liverpool, wine-merchant.—April 2. E. Kent, Bicester, Oxfordshire, draper.—April 9. T. Shepherd, Romford, Essex, nurseryman.—April 16. L. Lester, Sheerness, shoemaker.—April 8. J. Wilson, Kendal, tallow-chandler.—April 12. J. Scott, Wakefield, grocer.—April 9. T. and M.

Robinson, Kirby Stephen, Westmorland, liquor-merchants.—April 12. J. Makeig, Bristol, linen-draper.—April 13. J. Bean, Leeds, worsted-manufacturer.—April 9. B. B. Levin, Great Alie-street, merchant.—April 11. G. Burgess, Whitecross-street, ale brewer.—April 11. S. Goodwin, Haymarket, hardwareman.—April 9. J. Anderson, Gracechurch-street, paper-hanger.—April 12. J Crocker, Gosport, ship-chandler.—April 5. R. R. W. Tulford and B. Hanbury, Great Russel-street, shoemakers.—April 11. R. Thomas, Cowbridge, Glamorganshire, shopkeeper.—April 13. F. Hollins, Ashborne, Derby, mercer.

CERTIFICATES.—APRIL 5.

T. Stoneman, Exeter, money-scrivener.—J. Albany, Ware, barge-master.—M. Wilson, Newcastle upon Tyne, spirit-merchant.—T. Kellett, Walsall, baker.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains an account of the destruction of the French cutter privateer the Dunkerquois, of 4 guns and 45 men, under a heavy fire from the shore, by the boats of the Princess Augusta cutter, off Katwick.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

George Else, Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, hosier, from March 22, to April 20, at one, at the Swan Inn, Mansfield.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

C. and E. Kenworthy, and J. Clough, Halifax, cotton-spinners.

BANKRUPTS.

John L. Percival, Prescott-street, Middlesex, merchant, to surrender March 26, 29, April 30, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Wilde, jun. Castle-street, Falcon-square.

John Batty, Primrose-street, Bishopsgate-street, straw and chip-hat manufacturer, March 26, at two, 28, and April 30, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Pearce, Dixon, and Allen, Paternoster-row.

Joseph Bamford, Manchester, grocer, April 2, 5, 30, at two, at the Bridgewater Arms, Manchester. Attornies, Messrs. Duckworth, Chippendall, and Dennison, Manchester.

James Whitehead, Bolton-le-Moors, Lancashire, hatter, March 30, 31, April 30, at five, at the Bridgewater Arms, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. Law, Manchester.

Edward Claypole, Chatham, shopkeeper, March 22, April 9, 30, at twelve, at Guildhall, London. Attornies, Messrs. T. and W. Nettleshipp, Poultry, London.

Joseph Armson, Eyton, Salop, miller, April 18, at five, 19, 30, at eleven, at the Jerningham Arms, Shiffnall, Salop. Attorney, Mr. Smith, Wolverhampton.

John Palmer, Canterbury, taylor, April 11, 12, 30, at ten, at the Guildhall, Canterbury. Attorney, Mr. Reynolds, Folkestone, Kent.

Thomas Vinn, Clement's-lane, Lombard-street, dealer, March 22, at eleven, 29, April 30, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Sarel, Surrey-street, Strand.

Charles Boucher, Southampton-row, Bloomsbury, bookseller, April 9, at eleven, 16, at twelve, 30, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Watkins and Cowper, Stone-buildings, Lincoln's-inn.

John and Chas. Tomlinson, Chester, brewers, April 13, 29, 30, at eleven, at the Pied Bull, Chester. Attornies, Messrs. Potts, Leche, and Potts, Chester.

Thos. Crockett, Oxford, dealer, March 26, 29, April 30, at eleven, at the Angel Inn, Oxford. Attorney, Mr. Robinson, Oxford.

Henry Andrews, Canterbury, seedsman, April 11, 12, 30, at eleven, at Guildhall, Canterbury. Attorney, Mr. Plummer, Canterbury.

David T. Myers, Stamford, draper, April 5, 6, 30, at eleven, at the George Inn, Stamford-Baron. Attorney, Mr. Edwards, jun. Spalding, Lincolnshire.

Samuel Spencer, Exeter, spirit-merchant, March 30, 31, April 30, at five, at the Spread Eagle, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. Daniel, Manchester.

DIVIDENDS.

May 24. Wm. Thompson, Southwark, E. Leadbeater, Lambeth, merchants.—April 23. T. Hughes, Norfolk-street, Strand, wine-merchant.—April 23. T. Grover, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, post-master.—April 23. B. Slissold, Smith's-rents, St. John's-street, chapman.—April 19. Wm. Beach, Ludlow, Salop, mercer.—April 12. T. Pilcher, Canterbury, wheelwright.—April 9. S. Cartwright, Maiden-lane, Wood-street, hosier.—April 9. A. Thomas, Duke-street, Westminster, feather-manufacturer.—April 16. John Stevens, Gravesend, linen-draper.—April 9. R. Gibbs, Whitecross-alley, Moorfields, chair-maker.—April 23. Tho. Bradshaw, St. Matlin's-le-Grand, Westminster, shoemaker.—April 16. Wm. Benson, Twickenham, Middlesex, maltster.—May 3. Crichton Horne, Poland-street, Ratcliff-highway, Middlesex, glass-maker.—April 19. H. Shepard, Cambridge, liquor-merchant.—April 15. J. Williams, Leigh, Lancaster, cabinet-maker.—April 9. J. Carr, Bishopwearmouth, Durham, cabinet-maker.—April 29. R. Cliff, Little Bolton, Lancaster, muslin-manufacturer.

CERTIFICATES—APRIL 9.

J. Davis, Cardiff, Glamorgan, builder.—J. Townly, Boston, Lincoln, bookseller.—B. Harrop, Saddleworth, York, Manufacturer.—Russel Watts, Bristol, grocer.—Robert Lomas, Stockport, Chester, cotton-spinner.—J. Parnell, Deal, innkeeper.—W. Winter, jun. Blackfriar's-road, painter.—J. Greenwood and W. Grimaldi, Old Bond-street, Middlesex, auctioneers.—E. I. Samuels, Prescott-street, Goodman's-fields, merchant.

PRICE OF STOCKS YESTERDAY.

3 per Cent. Cons. for money, 64⅛ 1-4th | Ditto, for April 64 3/16. | 3 per Cent. Red. shut.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON:

SUNDAY, MARCH 20.

Two pieces of intelligence from Paris and Strasburgh coincide in stating, not only that the Rochfort squadron has joined the fleet at Toulon, but that the Carthagena squadron with various ships of war from Spanish ports has arrived at the same place. This force must no doubt be considerable, though it may not amount to thirty sail of the line, as the statement would induce us to believe. Its avowed object is the pursuit of our cruizers about Sicily and the Adriatic, and finally the attack upon Lord COLLINGWOOD before he can be reinforced. His Lordship has not above ten sail of the line with him, and the expedition intended for Sicily under General SPENCER had not left Gibraltar on the 11th ult. on which day the combined fleets were pursuing their voyage. Of COLLINGWOOD perhaps the glory will be still greater because his forces are less, but there is every reason to believe that the unfortunate and weak FERDINAND will now lose his last shadow of dominion.

Government received dispatches on Friday from the British Minister at Sweden. Their contents have not been made public, but from this silence and from the caution exhibited by Ministers in the debate on the Swedish Treaty, it is highly probable that the intelligence is not favourable to Swedish affairs. It is supposed that GUSTAVUS begins to be alarmed at the mighty blow which is about to be struck by the three nations in league against him. NAPOLEON is said to have vowed his destruction: perhaps he has only hinted it, but that is the same thing. Eighteen thousand French horse entered the city of Altona on the 5th inst, preceded by two Hamburgh city-dragoons, who serve them as guides. They halted on the 6th, and, with about 10,000 Spaniards, were reviewed by BERNADOTTE in a field belonging to Hamburgh. Holstein is almost full of French and Spanish troops, and a large marine force at Copenhagen, manned by French and Dutch sailors, is in readiness to sail with the invaders. BERNADOTTE, it is said, has the command of 70,000 men, who will attack Sweden in four different places. The French display their usual want of ceremony in the examination of papers and travellers. An official letter of last Wednesday stated, that the King of SWEDEN had ordered M. ALOPEUS, the Russian Minister, to be arrested. If this be true, it is another instance of that affected decision by which GUSTAVUS tries to imitate the man whom he has affected to despise. Of what single use can such an arrest be at such a time and by such a power as Sweden? It will bind Russia more closely to France, and it will give an additional excuse to NAPOLEON for his own acts of injustice. This is a piece of mean Turkish revenge, which England, it is hoped, will never condescend to imitate from any monarch or conqueror upon earth.

The Bill against Reversionary Grants has been again thrown out of the Lords, as I suspected it would be. This circumstance, however it may proceed from Courtiers, is no compliment to the Commons, who are the principal guardians of the public purse, and therefore supposed to have the principal voice in such matters. Mr. BANKES however appears to be preparing for a new motion on the subject, which is to be hoped will not soon tire the patience of public investigation.

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Yesterday afternoon we received American Papers. The following are the most interesting articles they contain:

WASHINGTON, JAN. 17.—Yesterday the British Envoy Extraordinary (Mr. Rose) was formally introduced to Mr. Jefferson, by the Secretary of State. As this was mere matter of ceremony, nothing material transpired. This day Mr. Rose, accompanied by Mr. Erskine, waited on several Officers of Government. This place is extremely prolific in reports—among them are the following: it is said that M. Turreau has openly expressed his disapprobation at our Government condescending to receive Mr. Rose, and that if he is continued to be recognised as British Envoy, he will demand his passports.

The Senate has been on Executive business, probably to confirm the nomination of a Negotiator to confer with Mr. Rose. Mr. Madison, it is expected, will be the man, and that the negotiation will commence immediately.

BOSTON, JAN. 28.—Considerable conversation was afloat yesterday, on the subject of some newly discovered conspiracy, in which Gen. Moreau was said to be implicated. On what foundation it rests we know not, unless the following article, from a New-York Paper of Jan. 21, furnishes the authority:—"It was reported yesterday, that the dispatches from the French Minister here to Buonaparte, which were intercepted in an American vessel by a cruizer, and laid before the British Government, were afterwards submitted to the inspection of Mr. Monroe, before his departure from England.—These dispatches are said to criminate General Moreau; and on Mr. Monroe's communicating their contents to the President, orders were given to arrest the General, if he could be taken within the United States."

Private advices from various parts of the Continent arrived on Friday—from Paris to the 9th, from Holland to the 15th, and from Hamburgh to the 8th. The letters from Amsterdam state, that the Government had directed a fresh contribution of 100,000,000 of francs to be levied upon the people of Holland.—BONAPARTE is reported to have set out for Spain and Portugal. From Paris it is stated, that BONAPARTE has determined to seize upon all the public treasures in Spain, and even the church-plate, the amount of which is to be forwarded to Paris. It is added, that the produce of this plunder is intended chiefly as a loan to the Emperor of RUSSIA, for the purpose, probably, of enabling him to send an army to the Caspian sea.

A private letter from the Elbe says—"the French have made great preparations for a descent on Sweden, in the ports of Weimar, Rostock, and Stralsund, and the Island of Rugen. All letters are opened by the French, all travellers are searched, and all parcels examined. At Apenrade, and all the ports of Holstein and Schleswic, all the great and small craft is under orders to take in French and Spanish troops; and at Copenhagen all the gun-boats and merchantmen, with one ship of the line, four large Danish East Indiamen, fitted out as frigates, and carrying 36 guns each, besides a number of Danish brigs, cutters, and pilot-boats, manned by French and Danish sailors, are to carry over the troops. It is the general opinion here that if the British Fleet does not speedily arrive, Sweden is lost. The French and Spanish armies, assisted by the Danes, are to be all in Zealand, on or before the 25th or 26th of March."

The letters from Hamburgh confirm our former intelligence of the enormous rise in the price of every article of colonial produce, and of the apprehensions entertained of a speedy and total deprivation of them.

The horses which were intended by the GRAND SIGNOR as a present for the FRENCH EMPEROR, and were actually on their way to Paris, have been ordered by BONAPARTE to be sent back to Turkey, and not to be allowed to enter France.

The *Vienna Gazette* of the 2d inst. states, that the Russian army in Moldavia and Wallachia has been considerably reinforced.

According to the last accounts from Venice, 12,000 Russian troops remain on the frontiers of Italy, at the disposal of the FRENCH EMPEROR. BONAPARTE dissatisfied at the conduct of the POPE, has ordered the Nuncio, who resided in Paris, to quit France.

It is reported, that five sail of the line have also escaped from Flushing, and passed the Channel during the night.

It appears, from an account laid before the House of Commons, that the total amount of all exemptions granted to foreigners, in respect of the duty on dividends in the various Funds of Great Britain, and on the dividends of the East India and South Sea Companies, under the Property Tax, amounted, for the four quarters ending the 5th of April, 1807, to 60,072l. 18s. 10d.

In the Fifth Report of the Commissioners of Military Enquiry, the Commissioners remark on the great inconvenience arising from a division of patronage, which has occasioned a much greater expenditure than would have otherwise occurred. The Army General Hospital system has been carried to too great an extent, and has been very disadvantageous. The expenditure for medicines is enormous. The medicines, medical stores, and surgical instruments, are supplied by a MR. GARNIER, who executes no part of the business himself, and receives a salary in addition to his profits, which appear to be *very great indeed!* His charges on a yearly average amount to 67,340l. The whole institution seems to have been conducted in a most extravagant manner, and affords another instance of the mode in which the public money has been squandered. The expenditure of *wine*, *spirits*, and *porter*, has been considerable; for whose use cannot be easily ascertained. *A pipe of wine in ten days, at the York Hospital, was a common average!*

A meeting took place on Tuesday, at Liverpool, to petition for peace. Mr. ASPINALL proposed one Address, and Mr. ROSCOE another. The Mayor could not decide who had the majority, and great confusion ensued. Mr. ROSCOE's friends retired to another spot, and both Addresses were, of course, resolved upon by the different parties. In the tumult the Mayor collared Mr. CASEY, and much indecent violence took place.

Another rise has taken place in the price of paper. This is the second within a few weeks.

BRUTALITY.—A brown gelding, 14 years old, belonging to WILLIAM COOPE, Esq. the Deputy Commissary General for the Liverpool District, on Wednesday last ran a match against time for 200 guineas on *Wallasey Liscard*. The bet was laid with Colonel FRAZER, which stipulated that Mr. C's horse should go 100 miles in 12½ successive hours, carrying eight stone.—He started at half past five in the morning. At 10 minutes before five in the evening he had gone above 93½ miles; and though he had only 6½ miles more to go, and 70 minutes to perform it in, he was so completely *jaded* as to be at a *stand still*, having *suffered the whip and spur very severely for the last eight or ten miles.*—Our indignant feelings have often been called up by exploits of this kind.—In the present case they would not have been more violated had we learnt that the rider of this poor animal had broken his neck, even had that rider been its owner.

A duel took place on Thursday morning, in Paddington-fields, near the three bridges of the New Cut, between Capt. W. and a Mr. Y. a gentleman of fortune. The parties fired three rounds each, and having been convinced by their seconds of their being indifferent marksmen, they shook hands, and retired over a bottle to the same coffee-house in Wigmore-street, where they had quarrelled.

SUICIDE.—A young Gentleman of very considerable expectations, and the senior Lieutenant in a regiment of infantry, had been on leave of absence for two months. He was married on the 4th inst. to the daughter of a merchant, and since that he has resided in Seymour-street. A strange inconsistency of conduct had been manifested by the young Gentleman for a week past, without any person being enabled to account for it, and on Friday night it led him to the rash resolution of ridding himself of life. He appeared in better spirits than usual in the company of a select supper party at his own table, but on the cloth being removed he retired, and not returning for some time, the company were alarmed, and the unfortunate man was found dead in a water-closet, with his throat cut in a shocking manner. Some pecuniary disappointment is spoken of as being the cause of his disturbed mind.

The person named HOWARD, who claims certain estates now in the possession of the Duke of NORFOLK, last week addressed the Court of Chancery in a most pathetic speech. He said he could adduce proofs of his right, if his Lordship would permit him; but if not, he and his wife had only to look to a jail, where they should speedily terminate a life of wrongs and sufferings. The CHANCELLOR told him that his case should be enquired into.

What could the soup allowed to the prisoners in Cold Bath fields be made of, when the Grand Jury recommended, that in future ox-cheeks and legs of beef should be used, to render the liquor more nutritious?

Mr. CUMBERLAND's forthcoming Opera has been named *Sheva of Mogadore*. The music is by KELLY and BRAHAM.

A new melo-dramatic Ballet of Action is in rehearsal at Drury-lane Theatre, written by Mr. T. SHERIDAN.

Mr. COOKE has renewed his engagement at Covent Garden for three years, at an encreased salary.

FRANCIS I. of France, entertained so great a respect for literature, that when a man of genius was introduced to him, he advanced three steps to meet him, according to the etiquette used towards princes.

Dr. *Broadhum*, being indisposed, sent for a Physician, who expressed some surprize at being called in on so trifling an occasion:—"Not so *trifling*, neither, (said he) for, by mistake, I have taken some of my own Cordial!"

A non-freeman of the City, at a late dinner, not wishing to sing, though possessing great musical talents, on being called upon for his song, begged to be excused, as he had no *voice* in the City.

Mr. ———, a wretched artist, telling a friend that he meant to whitewash the cieling of his room, and then paint it—the gentleman observed, that he thought he had better paint it first, and then whitewash it!

Mr. SIDDONS (the husband of our great actress) who died at Bath a few days ago, is said to have left his two sons 15,000l. each.

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

On Wednesday his MAJESTY held a Chapter of the Bath, at which Viscount STRANGFORD and the Earl of ABERDEEN were invested with the ensigns of that Most Noble Order. At two o'clock his MAJESTY held a Levee, which was numerously attended, and several Presentations took place on Promotions, &c. His MAJESTY next held a Privy Council, at which Lord STRANGFORD was sworn a Member, and the Earl of DIGBY Lord Lieutenant of Dorsetshire; and afterwards gave audiences to several Cabinet Ministers.

THE OPERA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—In consequence of the indisposition of CATALANI, PAISIELLO's beautiful opera of *Il Barbiere di Seviglia* was substituted for *La Didone*, on Saturday the 12th inst. but so miserably performed that the effect of the music was entirely lost. The want of abilities in the present company was fully exposed, and the value of CATALANI's powers more duly estimated by the experience of their loss. Madame DUSSECK, instead of improving by being accustomed to the stage, gets worse; her confidence only renders her more inattentive to the performance. She requires the assistance of the prompter in every line, and frequently a friendly jog from the other performers to call her attention from the side boxes, and give a gentle hint that it is her turn to speak next. To relieve her from the perplexity which she labours under from a total forgetfulness of her character, I should recommend the acting manager to dispense with words and allow her to sing all the recitative and songs to a tol lol de rol or a fal lal de ra, which would be equally instructive to the audience, who may think themselves extremely fortunate to catch a single syllable of what she has to repeat. MORELLI is greatly inferior to NALDI as an actor and singer, and RIGHI is below criticism. There were unfortunately more characters in the opera than performers in the company, a difficulty most economically remedied by giving two actors double parts. This reminds me of a representation of *Blue Beard* that I once saw in the country, where the whole *dramatis personæ* were performed by three persons, who also filled the situations of scene-shifters, lamp-lighters, and the more important office of money-takers. How valuable would this versatility of genius be to the manager of the opera! The greatest amusement of Saturday evening was the observation of the spectators' countenances, who would willingly have exchanged their situation for their half guineas and their homes. Upon some faces their appeared a sullen resolution to be displeased at every thing; before these the musicians played and the dancers languished in vain: upon others the soporific effects of the opera were observable in closed eyes and a peaceful resignation to repose. The manager out of regard to the theatrical treasury carefully concealed the severe illness of CATALANI till the evening; the trap was baited with her name, and the public caught before they knew the sorry fare prepared for them. This paltry scheme of filling the theatre may be lucrative, but certainly not very honourable. H. R.

PETITIONS FOR PEACE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,

The professed impartiality of your Paper has induced me to request your insertion of the following facts, as highly proper to be laid before the public.

It has lately appeared in the newspapers that the large and populous town of Manchester had drawn up a Petition for Peace, signed by about 35,000 of the inhabitants; but the manner in which a great part of the signatures to this Petition were obtained, are not well known to the public at present. In a provincial paper, *The Manchester Volunteer*, printed on the spot, whose information of course must be correct, it is positively stated that this Petition was most clandestinely obtained, that certain persons perambulated the streets for several nights together to procure signatures, that a great part are those of mere infants and non-entities, and that the signature of a lad, not 15 years of age, who was employed in the department of that newspaper, was put down without even his knowledge or consent. These are circumstances which every candid and impartial mind must reprobate and condemn, as it is a mean and scandalous effort of Party to influence the minds of the people, and in fact to aggravate those distresses, which such a conduct far from alleviating only serves to render more lasting and severe.—Can it be supposed that ambition and power so inordinate as Bonaparte's, will descend to make peace with this country on honourable terms when he hears of our numerous Petitions for Peace? It is in fact encouraging him with hopes that by prolonging the war, he may reduce us to such necessity that we shall gladly accede at last to whatever humiliating terms he may propose. Whatever privations his own subjects and vassals may labour under will not deter him from his unremitting endeavours to humble the proud rival of France. Bonaparte might wish to have made peace with this country if he found us unanimous for carrying on the war with vigour, till a just and honourable peace could have been concluded. That Peace is better than War, no man of reason and humanity will attempt to deny. Yet these ill-judged Petitions for Peace most certainly cannot accelerate its return, but on the contrary must prolong the War. The character of the French Ruler ought to be taken into consideration—past and recent experience has convinced us that treaties cannot bind him, if he thinks he can break them with impunity. It therefore follows, if he concluded a peace with us under the idea that we were unable to contend any longer without the deepest distress, he would at a *future* time when *his other views were accomplished* infringe that peace and renew the horrors of war, in hopes ultimately to subdue and ruin this country, the *only* obstacle to his insurmountable ambition. I am, Sir, your very humble servant,

March 15, 1808. T. D.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

GENERAL WHITELOCKE'S TRIAL.

FIRST DAY.—JAN. 28.

The Commission and the different Articles of Charge being read, and the Members of the Court sworn,

The Hon. RICHARD RYDER, Judge Advocate General, addressed the Court on the part of the prosecution. They were now met together on the most important occasion, probably, which had ever occurred in the history of this country. He should not detain the Court long, however; the case was unfortunately too painful in its nature, too much calculated to make a lasting impression, and too recent to require comment. The army of this country, destined for an attack on Buenos Ayres, had been entrusted to the care of General Whitelocke, and he had failed in the attempt. He had failed, with a great loss of his gallant troops. His enterprize had ended in the surrender of those advantages we had formerly gained, and in the total abandonment of that country. Not only so, by this failure our arms had suffered disgrace. We had incurred a diminution of military fame, which must be ever considered a national loss. There was one consolation, however, in thinking that the courage of our army could not be impeached, nor had any diminished exertion of theirs contributed to the calamities now to be inquired into. No troops had ever displayed more undaunted zeal, prudence, or devotion to their country's cause, than the generality of the officers who commanded in the expedition. Aggravated, therefore, as the circumstances of the case were, it was proper that they should become the subject of inquiry. The country had a right to know the causes which had given rise to this unexpected calamity. Reports unfavourable to Gen. Whitelocke had gone abroad: so far, however, from impressing them into this cause, were he not afraid of insulting the honourable feelings of the gallant officers who composed the present Court Martial, he would beg of them to forget what they had ever either heard or read on the subject, and to proceed to the inquiry with unbiassed minds, influenced by evidence alone. There was not a fact alleged against General Whitelocke which was not of a grave and serious nature; yet there was not one of them which was not founded on his own dispatches, so much so, that he might be content to lay the dispatches themselves before the Court, as the evidence for the prosecution; General Whitelocke had, in fact, been his own accuser. It would depend on the evidence to be brought before the Court, whether the statement he had given was to be falsified or supported. Did he know any witness who could speak in favour of General Whitelocke, he declared he would feel it equally his duty; nay, he should feel much more inclined to examine such witness than one who, he knew, would support the prosecution. He should follow the example of his predecessor in abstaining from any observations in that stage of the proceedings. The facts required no comment; they would speak for themselves; and his only wish was, that the ends of substantial justice might be attained.

THE EVIDENCE.

The first witness called was Major-General Gower, the second in command. Having given an account of his landing at Colonia, and bringing off the whole of the troops stationed there, with which he proceeded to Buenos Ayres, where, on the 29th of May, he joined the Commander in Chief, Major-General Gower went on to give a narrative of the march of the advanced guard, under his command, from the morning of the 28th of May, when he marched from Ensenada, where the army landed towards the heights. This advanced guard proceeded from the 28th of May to the morning of the 2d July, holding occasional communications with the main body of the army. On the morning of the 2d of July, however, General Gower received orders from the Commander in Chief to attempt discovering a pass which had been described over the Chuelo above the town of Buenos Ayres. If he found the pass he was to force it, and make good a lodgement in the suburbs of the town, or get into the town itself; and, if he could, open a communication with the navy. He was at the same time given to understand, that he was, on his march, to be joined by the 88th regiment, and that the Commander in Chief was to support him with the whole army. If he made good a lodgement in the suburbs of the town, he was to summon it to surrender; and if they demanded from him the terms Gen. W. was willing to grant, he was to send them a copy of the terms which accompanied the orders delivered to him, being the only written orders he had received, and which were delivered to him by Lieut.-Col. Bourke.—[These orders were the same afterwards sent into the town, and required, among other things the surrender of the civil authorities.]—In execution of these orders, Gen. Gower marched about nine o'clock, and fell in with a considerable corps of cavalry belonging to the enemy, a portion of whom he forced down on the Chuelo, and having driven them across it, ascertained the positive existence of that pass, and followed them across the ford. While occupied in getting four pieces of cannon over the pass, Brigadier-General Craufurd, who was in advance, informed the witness that he saw a very large body of infantry and a considerable body of artillery, apparently marching directly towards the same height, in the suburbs of Buenos Ayres, which the witness had previously pointed out to General Craufurd as the one which seemed in the first instance most eligible to go up. The Brigadier-General requested permission to advance against it with his brigade, and finding that it was so late that the brigade under Brigadier-General Lumley, which was by that time very much exhausted, was not likely to be able to arrive at this point before dark, the witness ordered General Craufurd to advance.

SECOND DAY.—FRIDAY, JAN. 29.

Before Brigadier-General Lumley could come up, Gen. Craufurd charged the enemy's line with the bayonet, which succeeded so perfectly, that in a few minutes their infantry was completely routed, and ten pieces of cannon were in our possession. The witness then sent a general summons to the Spanish Governor, and on his desiring to know what terms would be granted, sent him a copy of those which he had received from Gen. Whitelocke. The answer was, that nothing remained for them but to die, and that they had still a sufficient number of brave soldiers and brave commanders to enable them to evince that determination. The witness, however, was not joined by the 28th regiment, nor was he at all supported by the main body of the army.

THIRD DAY.—MONDAY, FEB. 1.

In answer to a question from Gen. Whitelocke, the witness said, he considered the civil authorities of Buenos Ayres to have been the persons who caused the insurrection against General Beresford, and to be completely hostile to us.

FOURTH DAY.—TUESDAY, FEB. 2.

In answer to a question from Sir John Moore, whether the witness thought a material advantage might have arisen from the whole of the army passing the river, and attacking the enemy on the 2d of June? The witness answered "I believe we should have carried Buenos Ayres. If there had been a force to support the impression made by the light battalion, we must have carried the place." Gen. Whitelocke ordered that all the Officers commanding brigades of division should attend at his quarters on the morning of the 4th, when their orders were to be delivered to them. Orders were according delivered to them, which were ordered to be put in execution the next morning. The witness could not correctly state why the attack was not made on the 4th. On the morning of that day, it appeared to be the general wish of the Officers to have the remainder of that day to reconnoitre their points; and then it was that the Lieut.-General definitively fixed the subsequent morning for the attack.

Questioned by Sir W. Meadows.—You were the second in command: Were you consulted by the Commander in Chief on the mode of attack?—A. I was: On the evening of the 3d, Lieut.-Gen. Whitelocke asked me if I had any idea how the town should be attacked. I stated, that I certainly had thought on the subject. He asked me if I had put my ideas on paper? I answered that I had. He desired to see them. I delivered them to him. Q. Was there any considerable difference between your plan and that adopted?—A. Yes: Mine having been made on my march, before I knew that the 40th regiment of foot and 17th light dragoons would not be there, included them also. Q. Was there any other difference?—My first idea was a deployment from a central point, but by the plan adopted the columns were to march from the positions respectively occupied by them. The basis of the plan adopted was very much the same with that which I proposed. I do not say that my idea, as to the point from which the attack should be made, would have been any very material difference. The witness went on to state, that the Officers with whom he had occasion to communicate seemed to approve of the plan. There were two places of retreat agreed on, to which, in case of a failure, the unsuccessful columns were to retire. From the examination, however, it appeared that both of these positions were in the hands of the enemy, and must first be carried before they could serve as points of retreat.

FIFTH AND SIXTH DAYS.—FEB. 3 AND 4.

Lieut.-Col. Bourke, Quarter-Master-General of the Forces, stated the purport of his conversation with Gen. Gower on the morning of the 2d of June to be this:—that on the Major-General's expressing his dissatisfaction with the orders he had received to proceed to cross the Chuelo, the witness said he would represent the matter to the Lieut. General, and thought it likely that he would move with the whole army to his support. The witness communicated this conversation to the Lieut.-General, who first proposed sending a single regiment, but a short time afterwards ordered the whole army to march. About two o'clock, as they were moving by two farm-houses, the Lieut.-General proposed to halt for the day. The witness reminded him of the conversation he had had with the Major-General that morning, and expressed his conviction that unless ordered to halt, he would cross the river and proceed to the heights westward of the town. The Lieut-General had not decided whether he would halt or not when Sir S. Auchmuty came up, to whom he referred the question. Sir Samuel immediately decided for halting, stating that there was a large quantity of sheep in the meadows, and fire and wood to dress the meat. About five o'clock in the evening of the following day, after the main body had joined the advanced guard, the witness called in at Major-Gen. Gower's quarters, who shewed the witness a plan for an attack on the town, which was the same which was given out next day in orders, with some very trifling alterations. He stated some objections to the plan to Major-Gen. Gower, who made light of them.

SEVENTH DAY.—FRIDAY, FEB. 5.

Brigadier-Gen. Craufurd commanded part of the advanced corps under Gen. Gower, and occupied the heights of Reduction. On the 2d of July he crossed the river Chuelo, and saw 500 of the enemy's horse through a fence. The first notice they had of the enemy was a shot from a gun 500 yards distant. The Spanish General and Staff appeared on the great road which leads to the slaughtering-house. Witness immediately engaged them with his brigade, put them to flight, and took twelve pieces of cannon. While forming the brigade, with intention to continue the pursuit, he received orders to fall back. He requested permission to follow the enemy, and received a peremptory order from Gen. Gower to retreat. He was of opinion that the town might have been taken that evening, had he been allowed to proceed. After a verbal summons had been sent to Gen. Liniers to surrender the town, Gen. Whitelocke took Gen. Craufurd aside, in the court-yard of White's house, and said, he felt so much reluctance at making the attack, that he was resolved to send a second summons. Gen. Craufurd gave his opinion, that it was better not to send another summons, as it would answer no good purpose, but imply a want of confidence on the part of the British. On the morning of the 4th the Brigade Officers met to consult on the attack on the town, and it was resolved to commence the attack at day-break on the 5th; part of the orders issued preparatory to the attack was, that the troops should be provided with tools and implements for breaking open houses. It did not appear by Gen. Craufurd's evidence, that Gen. Whitelocke appointed any place for his station during the attack.

Gen. Lumley detailed the operations of the army after the landing of the troops. The march from Barragon was through a swamp; the troops sunk up to the middle in some places, and found it very difficult to rise.

EIGHTH DAY.—SATURDAY, FEB. 6.

Gen. Lumley was to have been examined this day, but indisposition prevented his attendance.

NINTH AND TENTH DAYS.—FEB. 8 AND 9.

Gen. Lumley gave a circumstantial account of the proceedings of the brigade under his orders, corroborating the evidence of General Craufurd.

ELEVENTH DAY.—WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10.

Brigadier-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty stated, that Gen. Whitelocke was informed of the disposition of the inhabitants on his arrival at Monte Video, and of all information respecting the country, contained in letters sent to Gen. Beresford. He then detailed the operations of the army on the march to Buenos Ayres. He described the halt of the troops on the 2d to be advisable, from the want of provisions and the fatigue they had undergone in crossing the swamp.—On his cross-examination by Gen. Whitelocke, he admitted, that active preparations had been made by the General for the embarkation of the stores, &c. In answer to a question put by Sir J. Moore, he admitted, that the troops might have marched to Reduction sooner than they did by forced marches.

TWELFTH DAY.—THURSDAY, FEB. 11.

Colonel Fraser detailed the difficult passage of the artillery over the swamps, during which several horses were lost; and he stated, that the service could not have been performed without the assistance of 200 seamen sent from the fleet. Five four-pounders were lost in the marsh, which was a mile and three quarters in breadth. On the 4th of July he advanced with four field-pieces to Buenos Ayres, but found them of little service, as the place was regularly fortified.

THIRTEENTH DAY.—FRIDAY, FEB. 12.

Lieut.-Col. Torrens, Gen. Whitelocke's confidential Secretary, corroborated the preceding depositions.

FOURTEENTH DAY.—SATURDAY, FEB. 13.

Admiral Murray described the embarkation and landing of the troops at Barragon on the 25th. To co-operate with the army he moored gun-boats, and small craft up the river to the westward of Buenos Ayres, and sent seamen on shore to assist in conveying the artillery. The water was so shoal that not more than six vessels, besides gun-boats, were enabled to approach within gun-shot of the town. Admiral Murray admitted that every exertion was made by Gen. Whitelocke to expedite the landing of the troops.

FIFTEENTH DAY.—MONDAY, FEB. 15.

Major Roche said, that Gen. Gower sent him with a letter to the Officer commanding at Buenos Ayres, couched in the following terms:—"That the town, to prevent the effusion of blood, should be surrendered. That the inhabitants, civil as well as military, were to be considered as prisoners of war. That all private property should be respected and kept inviolate; and that the inhabitants should have the free exercise of their religion, and be al-

lowed to conform to their ancient ordinances."—The witness went with the flag of truce into the middle of the town before he was stopped. He was then taken by the French Adjutant to General Melva, the second in command, and to him he communicated his errand. After he had read the summons for the town to surrender, the General waxed warm, and with much apparent animation said—"Go, and tell your General, we are Spaniards, and that we have courage enough left to defend our town to the last extremity."—With this he returned, for in that kind of disposition he did not think it prudent to go any farther. He returned to Gen. Gower, who sent him with another letter, on the same point, but it had no good effect. He was asked by Gen. Moore as to the situation of the town; he said, that he did not perceive any guns mounted, but on his second visit, every house was barricadoed, and every male armed; not only that, they appeared in force, and most of them were in a state of intoxication.

SIXTEENTH DAY.—TUESDAY, FEB. 16.

Major-Gen. Gower's examination occupied the whole day. He said, "I proposed to Lieut.-Gen. Whitelocke the propriety of offering a cessation of arms; for the purpose of preventing the further effusion of blood; for this purpose we sent Major Roche into the town with a flag of truce. I had instructions from the General to go and inspect the advanced parties, and had also a communication with the Deputy-Quarter-Master General, Col. Connop, and Lieut. Brown, on the arrangement of the attack; Sir S. Auchmuty coming up at the time to cover my left flank. I had by this time received from Major Roche, the result of his conference with Gen. Liniers, announcing his determination to defend the town to the last extremity. The Major observed, when it was suggested to take the town by assault, that the inhabitants were very numerous, every house was barricadoed, and every man and boy under arms. Still the general opinion was, that the attack should be made, as, in the then situation of things, it was of great consequence for us to obtain the possession of it. If we could have got up all our cannon and stores, which was impracticable, still it was not likely to effect a reduction in a shorter time: this passed in the evening of the 4th; the next day, about twelve o'clock at noon, I sent again to summons the town, and on the refusal of General Liniers to surrender it, we made the attack. The General then went on to state the repulse of the troops, as already before the public.

A point question was asked by Sir J. Moore, which had been asked of all the witnesses—Did they recollect Lieut.-Gen. Whitelocke's being absent from head-quarters any time in the course of the two days, particularly on the 5th of July?—Yes; he was absent about half an hour at mid-day, and not more in the whole; the rest of the time was spent with the Deputy Quarter-Master and Adjutant-General, Lieut.-Col. Torrens, and the Officers of his Staff.—Q. Was a proper disposition made to land the troops and stores of different divisions of the army before the attack?—A. I cannot answer this question precisely; I can only say now, that from what came to my knowledge at the time, that I thought them the best calculated for the purpose.

SEVENTEENTH DAY.—THURSDAY, FEB. 18.

The Court met, but without proceeding to business, adjourned to Monday, on account of the absence of Lord Lake.

EIGHTEENTH DAY.—MONDAY, FEB. 22.

Major-General Gower's evidence was resumed, but nothing new came out.

NINETEENTH DAY.—FEB. 23.

Major-General Gower's examination proceeded. After some questions, one was proposed that was reckoned so material at this stage, that the Court was cleared on it.—It went in nearly the words of the charge—"Is it your opinion that Lieut.-Gen. Whitelocke did personally, or by his exertions or otherwise, do all he could to forward the attack on Buenos Ayres."—It should seem that the Court ruled that the question should not now be asked, as one of a very different tendency was asked on the re-admission of Strangers; it was—"Did any thing pass between you and Gen. Whitelocke before or on the 4th of July, so as to produce an irritation in your mind?"—"Yes, in an interview I had with the General, having not agreed with him in some of his proposals, he appeared heated, and said, that I was throwing cold water on every thing he wished to do. I replied to this in terms that displeased him so much, that he said, were it not for his personal respect for me, he would supersede me in the situation I held in the Staff. After being so stigmatized, I did not feel very comfortable in any correspondence with the Commander in Chief." The Major-General then added, that some other conversation did take place at the time, but that was of a private nature, which he did not think it proper to mention. The firing from the town had ceased at sunset on the 5th, but from the situation of the approaches to the town, intersected with squares and roads, and defended by so many armed men, there was little chance of any officer who might be sent out to reconnoitre arriving at the place of his destination. The result of the remainder of the questions was, that in his opinion no exertion of the British troops, under all the circumstances, could prevent provisions being thrown into the town.

Sir Samuel Auchmuty gave a narrative of the proceedings of his division, nearly similar to what has already appeared. He then proceeded:—When I reflect on the dangerous situation in which the army was placed, the major part of the light infantry killed, wounded, or prisoners; that upwards of one half of my brigade were cut off; the 45th regiment shut up close; the remainder without confidence, and, at the most inclement season of the year, without change of necessaries; the difficulties that must arise in burning or destroying houses, in the construction of which wood formed no part, except what was covered with terras, the bricks so soft that no balls would make them fly; the extreme difficulty, even if we succeeded in occupying the town, of being able to keep possession of it, from the known inveteracy and number of the natives, of which I had some experience at Monte Video; and what was of great consequence, the difficulty of supplying the troops from either the land or from the ships: on all these considerations, my opinion decidedly was, to accept the best terms we could get. I therefore communicated with Gen. Gower, and a treaty was entered into, by which we were allowed two months only. The evacuation of Monte Video was insisted on by the enemy.

TWENTIETH DAY.—WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24.

Major-Gen. Sir S. Auchmuty's examination was resumed.—Q. Are you of opinion that, in the event of the Commander-in-Chief's retaining possession of Monte Video, that the force was sufficient to keep the inhabitants in due obedience; and whether the regular supply of provisions could be obtained from the country, or by water?—The Court was cleared on this question.—On the re-admission of strangers, it appeared that the question was confined to the latter part, as the answer was, that it was not at all probable, from the hostility of the natives, that any regular supply could be obtained from the country by land.—As to the supply by water, the ships could not come higher up the river towards the city than a distance of seven miles: from thence the river was at times so rapid, and at other times so shallow, that the landing must in general be uncertain.

TWENTY-FIRST DAY.—THURSDAY, FEB. 25.

Brigadier-Gen. Lumley stated the occurrences in the brigade he had the command of on the 5th of July, 1807. It came out that from the hour of the march to that of the surrender, he did not receive either orders or assistance from Gen. Whitelocke, at head-quarters, at not much more than two miles distance.

Lieut.-Col. Duff, who commanded the right wing of the 88th on that day, stated all the circumstances attending the unfortunate affair. His explanation with respect to the hopeless situation in which he had been placed was, that with less than 100 men, he was in the middle of a town where every one was an enemy, from the native of Old Spain to the Black Slave, all armed; where they had plenty of artillery, well served, enfilading them in every way, and the small portion of effective he had, deficient in every respect for either attack or defence. He never did approve of the attack circumstanced as it was, and more particularly disapproved of that part of the arrangement that related to take the flints out of the men's pieces. He added, that no communication with Gen. Whitelocke at head-quarters took place, nor did he receive any assistance or offer of any from him.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY.—FRIDAY, FEB. 26.

Major Vancleur, who commanded the left division of the 89th regiment, was examined as to the operations of that wing, on the day of attack, beginning on his taking ground to the left, and advancing by a parallel two streets distance from the right wing, into the town, where he took possession of a house to cover his little detachment of 225 men; but he had lost so many men in his advance, and endeavour to keep possession, chiefly by the incessant fire of musquetry from the tops of the houses; and having no orders, nor any assistance offered or expected, to extricate him from the situation, all attempts at a retreat being deemed ineffectual—that he consulted with his officers, and accepted the terms of surrendering his men prisoners of war, they being diminished in killed and wounded more than half the number—and immediately gave up his sword.

Brigadier-Gen. Craufurd distinctly stated the occurrences of the brigade under his orders, from the morning of the 5th, when they moved forward to the attack, until the articles were finally settled. An examination of considerable length then went on as to various questions of opinion: first, if he had received any assistance from the Commander in Chief, by sending in the reserve, or by ordering Col. Layard with his corps to join him, he would not have been able to extricate himself? He had no doubt as to that point, they might have advanced by going round the town, or by water, without any material difficulty. What effect would the bringing up the gun-brigs or gun-boats to assist them from the beach have? He could only judge from what did happen on the morning of the 6th; three gun-boats brought to bear upon the town hit several of the houses, one of the balls went through Gen. Liniers house, but it was too insignificant to do any serious injury on the one hand, or produce any eventual good on the other. In a conversation he had with Gen. Gower, at Liniers's house, he understood that Gen. W. had taken his station at White's house in the morning, and remained there the whole day. Another point of conversation was the extreme irritation of the natives against the British, for reported cruelties, which rendered the lives of the prisoners very precarious, which he denied as being the fact, as far as his own brigade went. The rancorous hatred of the natives was too apparent on all occasions to be doubted.

TWENTY-THIRD DAY.—SATURDAY, FEB. 27.

Brigadier-Gen. Craufurd was farther examined.—Did he or did he not consider that if a proper supply of artillery had been afforded, it would not have prevented the surrender of his and the other corps?—He said it might, possibly; but he could say little as to the effect of the artillery, for those they had with them were of no use.—Q. Was it not possible that a proper spot could be found to erect batteries to aid the attack on the town?—A. It is probable there might on the N. W. side, but I cannot ascertain the point for want of local knowledge.—Q. Had you any communication with Gen. Whitelocke from the time of receiving your orders to march on the morning of the 5th of July, until after or up to the time of the surrender of the Convent of St. Domingo?—A. No, I had not; though I hourly expected it.—Q. Did you not consider it probable, when you had advanced into the town and taken your position at the Convent, that the Commander in Chief might have sent you such a reinforcement from his corps of reserve, or from the corps under the command of Col. Mahon, as would have enabled you either to push forward or retreat in safety?—A. I think he might? his reserve, with the strength of Col. Mahon's corps, were upwards of 1600.

Lieut.-Col. Pack, of the 71st regiment of foot, spoke as to the consultation he had with the Commander in Chief as to the attack, in the course of which it appeared he had given his decided disapprobation of it, in the way intended. For from his local knowledge of the town, and the approaches to it, they were such as no force could be brought up in the day-time without all their force and every movement being discernable from the turrets, in the town. He, therefore, recommended that the attack, if made at all, should be made before the break of day.

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY.—MONDAY, FEB. 29.

Rear-Admiral Murray was questioned whether he had not been called upon by the Commander in Chief to co-operate with his naval strength in the assault on the town? and if he had, what force he could bring up, and what effect it would be likely to have in the reduction of the place?

TWENTY-FIFTH DAY.—TUESDAY, MARCH 1.

Rear-Admiral Murray stated, that he was not at all called on by the Commander in Chief to afford any assistance, other than the supplying the troops on shore with provisions. The good effect a cannonade or bombardment might have had on the town, he did not doubt, but he could not speak as to the policy or propriety of it, as far as might respect the safety of the British prisoners.

Capt. Davenport stated that he was with Lieut.-Gen. Whitelocke the whole day of the 5th, at head-quarters, with the exception of about an hour only on mid-day; that the carabineers were ready to be called into action the whole day, but did not receive any order to that effect.

Capt. Fraser, who commanded the artillery attached to the expedition, was next examined.—On the evening of the 4th of July (said he) being at head-quarters, his Excellency ordered me to attend him early the next morning, and to remain by his side the whole day. I attended and did remain the whole day, with only these exceptions; at two o'clock or near, the General sent me forward from White's house towards the town, to see if the Spanish flag was struck from the Fort. I found it was not, and returned in about half an hour. A little after three, I went again upon the same business, and was absent about the same space of time, with the same success; this was all the the time I was absent. About mid-day his Excellency went out for about an hour, where I do not know. His time during the rest of the day was occupied, partly on horseback, partly dismounted, and some little time in writing. I know of no orders issued by him during the day, but one to me, to send some some artillerymen to the assistance of Sir S. Auchmuty's brigade, when I sent 16 men under the command of a serjeant; another order was to the carabineers, who were advanced in front of head-quarters, to retire and fall in in the rear of White's house, which they did.

[A series of questions were then put, to learn, as precisely as possible, how the Commander in Chief employed himself during the whole day, and to account for the inactivity of him and the reserve under his more immediate command. The answers were nearly the same as before mentioned: no attack of any kind had been made by the enemy on the reserve, or was any communication of any kind kept up with the advanced corps.]

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY.—TUESDAY, MARCH 3.

Capt. Fraser was again examined.—He was asked his opinion, if he had been ordered by the Commander in Chief to erect batteries against the town or fortress, or against Las Casas or Torres, would it not have been an effectual means of compelling the surrender of the fort? He said it certainly would.—Q. Was it not possible that a battery might be so raised as to bear upon all the principal parallels, so as to beat them in, and, by advancing upon them, to forward the approaches into the town and up to the fort?—A. Certainly.—Q. Had you no order to act in this way?—A. I had not.—Q. Did you receive from the Commander in Chief any orders for the disposition of the stores?—A. I did not.—Q. Was there any attack made on the main body of the reserve, under the immediate command of the Commander in Chief, on the 5th of July?—A. There was not, that I know of; all that took place that day was some scattered firings between the advanced parties of dragoons and the fugitives that were endeavouring to get away from the town.

Capt. Squires, of the engineers, in answer to many strong pointed questions, as to the application that might be made of the artillery and ordnance, coincided in opinion with Capt. Fraser, that they might have been employed with a very good effect.

Col. Mahon was in the command of a numerous body of troops, who were ordered by the Commander in Chief to advance into the town, near the bridge of Reduction, and was to command that position—not to advance, if the enemy were in force to repel them. Col. Mahon, in his evidence, stated that he took the position he was ordered, but finding that the bridge of Reduction was not defended, he took possession of it. The gallant Colonel was then asked how he came to take possession of the bridge without orders, conceiving it to be for the benefit of the service.

Lieut.-Col. Torrens, the Secretary to the Commander in Chief, concurred with the other witnesses as to the Lieut.-General's conduct on the 5th day of July.

TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY.—FRIDAY, MARCH 4.

Capt. Forster, Aid-de-Camp to the Commander in Chief, was examined.—His evidence was nearly similar to that of the preceding witnesses.

TWENTY-EIGHTH AND TWENTY-NINTH DAYS. MARCH 5 AND 7.

After some business of form, the evidence for the prosecution was closed; and the Court, to enable the Prisoner to prepare his defence, adjourned to the 14th.

THIRTIETH DAY.—MONDAY, MARCH 14.

Gen. Whitelocke entered upon his defence.—He stood up with a written paper in his hand, which he read in a manly and energetic tone. He began with complaining of certain gross, scandalous, and unfounded calumnies, that had been most industriously circulated against him in his absence, for no other purpose, as he could presume, than to raise a popular clamour against him; and that he found, on his arrival in England, they had been but too successful. Having expatiated on this point, he went on to remark on the conduct of certain persons inimical to him, one of whom, a Subaltern Officer, had gone the length of publishing and circulating a book or pamphlet, containing a gross libel on his character and reputation, which were dearer to him than his life.—[*Here he was so much affected as to be unable to proceed,*]—After a short pause it was submitted to the Court, that his Counsel might be allowed to read the other part; this was in the first instance objected to.

The Lieut.-General then proceeded to comment on the manner in which the charges against him had been attempted to be made out—not by direct, nor even by circumstantial evidence—but by giving opinions, and reciting conversations, not only with him but with others. This he thought was cruel; and here he was again seriously affected, and his friends were allowed to read his defence. It began with reciting all the circumstances that led to the first descent on Monte Video, the success of that, the representations made to the Government of this country of the great importance that a still farther penetration into that country would be of to the commerce of England, and a variety of other circumstances, particularly the misrepresentations made of the state of the country, and the disposition of the inhabitants, which had induced Government to order the expedition to be fitted out, which he had the honour to command. Of the unfortunate result of that expedition, evidence had been given; and he was now to answer from his instructions—his correspondence with Gen. Beresford, Sir S. Auchmuty, &c. who, of all others, he should consider the most competent judges of the probable success of the enterprise. He would call witnesses to repel the attacks made upon him. He stood before a most competent tribunal, men of the same rank with himself, who had seen service, and were proper judges from what was laid before them, whether he was culpable or not. If most unfortunately he should by them be found culpable, he would meet the event with a consciousness that he had acted to the best of his judgment, and had been tried by Gentlemen and Brother Officers, who, disregarding popular clamour, acted only from the honest dictates of their own minds, and would shew that truth and justice in their minds preponderated against popular prejudice and private calumny.—In the march through the town, the men were ordered to proceed with unloaded pieces, because he and Sir S. Auchmuty considered that loaded musquets would have been of no use against men behind parapets, who were only visible at the moment they made a discharge. His object was to proceed rapidly through the town, until the British troops encountered those of the enemy. As to his personal exertions on the day of attack, it was understood that the different corps were not to look to the reserve for aid: it was only 1000 strong, and was hardly sufficient to protect the guns, hospitals, &c. Gen. Craufurd's force consisted of the flower of the army; knowing where the Commander in Chief was, he should have demanded aid, and had it been refused by Gen. Whitelocke, then there would have been cause for censure. He acted under impressions of false confidence, expecting every moment successful accounts; nor could he have supposed that Gen. Craufurd would have deviated from the plan of attack, take an untenable post, suffer himself to be surrounded, and not acquaint Gen. Whitelocke of his situation, which he could have done. The Commander in Chief might not have taken all the proper precautions; but he had no reason to expect such a resistance to a formidable body of regular troops by an open town and undisciplined people. The assault had been resolved upon in preference to a bombardment, which was objected to on account of the difficulties in landing heavy artillery, and the irritation it would occasion among the inhabitants. If he had erred, it was an error of judgment, to which the charges were not applicable. As to the surrender of Monte Video, he was not answerable for it, not being the commander of that fortress. The General concluded with observing that he relied with chearfulness upon the justice of the Court.

THIRTY-FIRST DAY.—MARCH 15.

General White, under whom the Prisoner had served, bore most honourable testimony as to his character for abilities and courage.

Gen. Whitelocke having declined calling any more witnesses,

The JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL summed up the evidence for the prosecution, as well as the defence set up by the Prisoner. He adverted to the first part of the charges, namely, the requisition of the civil officers as prisoners of war; and upon this he must observe, Gen. Whitelocke had not brought forward one solitary precedent to justify such a measure. This charge stated, that instead of holding out to the Spanish Government such terms as would give a favourable impression of the British army, Gen. White-

locke, on the contrary, called upon them to deliver up to him their Magistrates, the very persons to whom the inhabitants looked up for protection. Gen. Whitelocke said, he had abandoned the bombardment because it would irritate the inhabitants; surely the requisition of the civil officers was more likely to irritate. He retraced the march from Reduction to the arrival of the army at the Coral, and brought forward the leading occurrences; that the advanced corps, on the 2d, defeated the enemy; the main body following, after a march of seven miles, were halted; that a cannonading was heard, and no means taken to learn from whence it proceeded, or the cause; that Col. Mahon, with the rear-guard, arrived at Reduction, and opened a communication with the navy, yet received no further orders till the 6th; that according to the positive testimony of Gen. Gower and Gen. Craufurd, if they had advanced on the town on the 2d, it could have been captured, by the measure of entering on the westward, where they were not expected; that guides were not confronted; that the necessary orders for the march were not given; and that no communication was kept up with the advanced corps from the time it moved, though the main body had only marched seven miles. On the points which applied to the plan, he meant to offer no observation; it was for the Court to decide upon its merits or demerits. It appeared, that Gen. Whitelocke received information of the defence of the enemy from Major White, which proved to be accurate: he arranged the plan of attack, without having made any *reconnoisance* of the town; he had not, in orders or otherwise, intimated the station himself was to occupy; he had fixed no point of retreat, if retreat should be necessary; that by his orders, Col. Mahon, with his brigade, remained at the bridge; and that, in consequence of this separation, the army lost the assistance of 1800 men. It appeared, that the Plaza del Toras was taken by Sir S. Auchmuty by nine o'clock; that it contained a quantity of ammunition and provisions, and that Gen. Lumley, having no communication to act by, was obliged to join Sir S. Auchmuty; that Gen. Craufurd and Col. Pack, with their forces, were obliged to surrender for want of farther orders; and that Officers who had displayed so much gallantry were left without support. He next adverted to the necessity of the Commander in Chief's personal exertions, which, though by no means necessary at all times, in some instances were an indispensible part of his duty; in which he instanced the personal exertions of the late Lord Lake, from which his country derived the greatest benefits, and himself unfading laurels. He then adverted to the occupation of the Coral by Sir S. Auchmuty, the reports made to the General of the success or failure of the other columns, and the want of necessary communication between the head-quarters and those columns, in order to support them. He next spoke of the situation of the fortress of Monte Video at the time of the treaty, and resisted the arguments of Sir S. Auchmuty in favour of giving up the possession of that place, and condemned in strong terms the motives which had induced Gen. Whitelocke to sign the treaty, as subversive of all the principles hitherto acted upon in such circumstances. In conclusion, he observed, it was for the Court to determine whether so gallant an army were deserving of such a fate, as to be obliged to purchase their safety by so disgraceful a sacrifice of their honour and character as British Soldiers.

The proceedings on each side were then declared to be concluded. Strangers were then ordered to withdraw, and the Court sat for about half an hour, when they adjourned.

[The General Officers comprising the Court-Martial have repeatedly met at the Board Room, in Chelsea Hospital, to deliberate on the evidence before them.—We understand that the sentence cannot be published until it has received the sanction of the King. It is expected to be laid before his Majesty in due form by the Judge Advocate-General, after the Levee on Wednesday next.]

POLICE.

BOW-STREET.

About five years since, a letter was put into the Post-office, at Brentwood, in Essex, with a 50l. Bank note in it, which did not come to hand, nor was paid into the Bank till about three weeks since, when information was given at the Post-office, and the Solicitor employed Anthony to trace the note, who traced it to the wife of a Serjeant Dew, of the Prince of Wales's Dragoons, quartered at Malden, who said she had it of her mother. The officer, on tracing out her mother, discovered her to be the wife of the Postmaster of Brentwood, at the time the note was stolen, upon which he took her into custody. She was, on Thursday evening, examined and committed for trial.—In her defence, she said, she took the note of a man, in her shop, for goods.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

An inquisition was taken on Thursday, at a public-house in Duke-street, Oxford-street, on the body of Alicia Harriet Mancey, a dress-maker, who was found dead in her bed-room, on Wednesday morning. It appeared that the deceased had been observed to be in a desponding state.—After breakfast she retired from the room, and was missing for an hour, when she was discovered in a state of insensibility on the bed, she having taken a quantity of laudanum and another mixture, and survived a short time. It was supposed that an improper attachment had led her on to commit suicide. The verdict was—Insanity.

A young man, an assistant to a surgeon in Grosvenor-street, also poisoned himself on Sunday last, and a Coroner's Jury delivered a verdict similar to the above.

Friday afternoon, as the carriage of Mrs. Smarten, of Gower-street, was going at a brisk rate along Wimpole-street, the off hind wheel flew off, and the vehicle upset. Mrs. Smarten and a Miss Peate, her niece, were in the carriage, when the young lady's arm was fractured in a dreadful manner, the carriage having fallen on it. Mrs. S. escaped with slight injury.

MARRIED.

Last week, at Westbury Church, Mr. Thos. Field, aged 22, to Miss Patience Winterbottom, aged 67!

DIED.

On Monday, in Newman-street, the Rev. Philip Du Val, D. D. one of the Canons of Windsor, Vicar of Twickenham, and a Fellow of the Royal and Antiquarian Societies.

On Wednesday, at Kennington, W. Shepherd, Esq. Water-bailiff for the City.

On Monday last, at her house, in Portland-place, Lady Sheridan.

On Sunday morning last, aged 56, John Pybus, Esq. banker, of Bond-street.

On Wednesday, Joseph Bonomi, Esq. the Artist, in his 69th year. He was an Associate of the Royal Academy.

On Friday, in Upper Berkeley-street, the Hon. Emma Cartwright, wife of Wm. Ralph Cartwright, Esq. of Aynho, in the county of Northampton.

On Saturday se'nnight, at Westham, in Essex, the Rev. Geo. Gregory, D. D. after a few days illness. The Doc. was a native of Liverpool. About six years ago he was inducted to the vicarage of Westham, in Essex, through the interest of Lord Sidmouth, who, to the praise of that Minister, has beckoned many men of merit from the shade.

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